

**An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna**  
**Department of Education and Skills**

**Follow-Through Inspection**  
**REPORT**

**Saint Brigid's Infant National School**  
**Wellmount Avenue, Dublin 11**  
**Uimhir rolla: 20029M**

**Date of inspection: 04 June 2015**



<b>Date of publication/issue of original report</b>	21 May 2014	<b>Type of original report</b>	Whole School Evaluation (WSE)	<b>Date of FT inspection</b>	04 June 2015
<b>Follow-through inspection activities</b>					
<p><i>The following activities took place in the course of the follow-through inspection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with principal and senior management team</li> <li>• Meeting with members of the in-school management team</li> <li>• Meeting with relevant teachers/members of staff</li> <li>• Observation of teaching and learning</li> <li>• Interaction with pupils</li> <li>• Review of school documentation and records and pupils' work</li> <li>• Review of resources and facilities</li> </ul>					
<b>Recommendation in original inspection report</b>			<b>Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ní mór plean céimnithe a leagan amach don Ghaeilge labhartha i gcomthéacsanna foirmiúla agus neamhfoirmiúla. <i>An incremental oral Irish plan should be devised for the development of language in formal and informal contexts.</i></li> </ul>			<p><b>Dul chun cinn an-mhaith</b> Tá dul chun cinn an-mhaith á dhéanamh ag an scoil maidir leis an moladh seo. Moltar foireann na scoile as ucht a gcuid oibre chun teanga fhoirmiúil agus neamhfoirmiúil a fhorbairt do gach leibhéal ranga. Is léir ón bpolasaí Gaeilge go bhfuil foclóir agus abairtí céimnithe do gach leibhéal ranga roghnaithe ag an scoil. Freisin, gach mí, roghnaíonn an scoil 'frása na míosa' chun an teanga a cheiliúradh.</p> <p><b>Very good progress</b> <i>The school has made very good progress in relation to this recommendation. The school team is commended for all its work in developing formal and informal language for each class level. It is evident from the Irish policy that the school has chosen incremental vocabulary and sentences for each class level. Also, each month, the school selects a 'phrase of the month' to celebrate the language.</i></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the development of the school's plans for literacy and numeracy, some targets should be reviewed.</li> </ul>			<p><b>Very good progress</b> Very good progress has been made in respect of this recommendation. Targets for literacy and numeracy have been reviewed and refined. They are now more specific and aligned closely to the school's actions. The school regularly discusses and reviews the appropriateness and success of various targets and actions at staff meetings.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration should be given to the establishment of a programme of early intervention for junior infant pupils in the domains of literacy and numeracy.</li> </ul>			<p><b>Good progress</b> The school has made good progress on this recommendation. It has developed a programme of early intervention carefully and proactively in the area of literacy for junior infants. Guided by collaborative planning between support and classroom teachers, the programme includes development of pupils' oral language skills, fine motor skills and emergent reading skills. Activities are well prepared, well structured, directed and stimulating for pupils. The school reflects regularly on the success of various features of this programme. Purposeful partnerships with parents have been developed.</p> <p>The school has commenced some support in numeracy at junior-infant level and plans to extend this further in the forthcoming year. In particular, mathematics in the environment and the use of maths trails have been identified as areas for development. A large number of school staff have undertaken continuous professional development in the field of numeracy. The sharing of this learning is an important feature of the school self-evaluation process.</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school's approach to recording monthly progress reports should be reviewed to make greater provision for the delineation of curriculum implementation and progression in learning.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Very good progress</b></p> <p>The school has made very good progress in respect of this recommendation. It has reviewed the manner in which monthly reports were written and, as a result, has developed a new approach. This approach will be reviewed at the end of this academic year. It is recommended that, in the next review, consideration be given to opportunities for refining current templates in order to analyse strand coverage across the various curricular subjects.</p>
<p><b>Summary of findings</b></p>	
<p>The school is commended for the strategic and careful manner in which it has set about addressing the recommendations in the WSE report. In particular, its focus on designing interventions and learning initiatives, that actively involve pupils and translate to concrete learning experiences, is particularly praiseworthy. The development of parental partnerships and the facilitation of active hands-on learning experiences for the pupils are similarly very positive. Good progress is being made in respect of literacy interventions at junior-infant level and purposeful work has begun on developing numeracy interventions at this level also.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	
<p>It is recommended that in the next review of monthly reports consideration be given to approaches which provide for strand analysis coverage.</p>	

The board of management was given an opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report, and the response of the board will be found in the appendix of this report.

## **Appendix**

**School response to the report**

**Submitted by the Board of Management**

**Area 1: Observations on the content of the inspection report**

The board of management has noted and is very pleased with the very positive feedback and the recognition of the work and the progress made to date.

**Area 2: Follow-up actions planned or undertaken since the completion of the inspection activity to implement the findings and recommendations of the inspection**